

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence	, post office	e address an	d citizenship ar	e as stated b	elow next 1	to my name;	that
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plural inventors are named be		hich is claimed and for	sted below) or a joint inventor (if which a patent is sought on the
the specification of which:			
☐ is attached hereto.	was filed onFebrua	ry 4, 2004	
ā	as Application Serial No	10/772,067	
;	and was amended on	(if applicable)	
I haraby state that I h	ave reviewed and understand th		identified specification, including
the claims, as amended by any be the original and first invento	amendment specifically refer or(s) of the subject matter whi use information which is materi	red to above, and that I ch is claimed and for whi	believe the named inventor(s) to ch a patent is sought, and hereby ordance with §1.56 (reprinted on
I also hereby state that to the United States of Americ		s invention have previou	sly been filed in countries foreign
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE FILED (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119
Germany	DE 103 04 692.5	6 February 2003	yes X no
			yes no
			yes no
below and, insofar as the subj States application in the manne	ect matter of each of the clai or provided by the first paragra nation as defined in Title 37, Co	ms of this application is ph of Title 35, United Sta ode of Federal Regulatior	Inited States application(s) listed not disclosed in the prior United tes Code §112, I acknowledge the ns, §1.56 which occurred between te of this application:
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status: patented	, pending, abandoned)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status: patented	d, pending, abandoned)
(Reg. No. 28,846), Allen H. Hoo 32,273), Dean A. Monco (Reg. No. 17,314) at Patent and Trademark Office a MADISON STREET, SUITE 3800 No. 22,810), my attorneys with tions or amendments therein,	over (Reg. No. 24,103), Martin lo. 30,091), John S. Mortimer (Ind Joel E. Siegel (Reg. No. 25,4 and practicing as the firm of Vo. CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60661 (In full power of substitution and to receive the patent and to	L. Katz (Reg. No. 25,011) Reg. No. 30,407), Paul M. 440), each registered to pool of the comment	No. 37,825), Stephen D. Geimer, F. William McLaughlin (Reg. No. Odell (Reg. No. 28,332), Richard practice before the United States CLARK & MORTIMER, 500 WEST (10), and Wm. A. VanSanten (Reg. this application, to make alterahe Patent and Trademark Office All telephone inquiries may be



I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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Inventor's Signature	Date 25 F58 2004	
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	Citizenship	
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	Citizenship	
	Date	
Post Office Address		



Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

- A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and (a) the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
 - (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
 - (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentability defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
 - (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
 - (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (I) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office,

(ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

or

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
 - (1) Each inventor named in the application;
 - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
 - (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent or inventor.
- (e) In any continuation-in-part application, the duty under this section includes the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.